

Message Text

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16

ACTION IO-13

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L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR UN TQ

SUBJ : JAPANESE MISSION BRIEFED ON RECENT UNVM TRIP TO TTPI

1. JAPANESE MISSION OFFICER IN CHARGE OF COLONIAL AND TRUSTEESHIP AFFAIRS (SUZUKI) ASKED MISOFF MAR 27 FOR RUN-DOWN ON RECENT UNITED NATIONS VISITING MISSION (UNVM) TO TTPI. SUZUKI PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN MICRONESIAN STATEMENTS TO UNVM ON "WAR CLAIMS" AND POSSIBLE UNVM RECOMMENDATIONS IN THIS AREA.

2. MISOFF SAID UNVM CONCENTRATED ON FUTURE STATUS QUESTION AS WELL AS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS ISSUE, AND RECOMMENDATIONS IN ITS REPORT WOULD PROBABLY REFLECT THESE CONCERNS. MISOFF NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT UNVM HEARD SEVERAL REQUESTS FROM MICRONESIANS THAT CLAIMS AGREEMENT BE RENEGOTIATED SINCE US AND JAPAN HAD CONCLUDED ORIGINAL AGREEMENT "BEHIND THEIR BACKS". AS USUAL, UNVM ALSO RECEIVED PETITIONS ASKING US AND UN TO OBTAIN FROM JAPAN COMPENSATION FOR ALLEGED DAMAGES SUFFERED BY MICRONESIANS BEFORE 1941 UNDER JAPANESE MANDATE. MISOFF INDICATED THAT UNVM UNLIKELY TO MAKE SIGNIFICANT RECOMMENDATION IN THIS FIELD EXCEPT POSSIBLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO URGE MORE RAPID IMPLEMENTATION OF CLAIMS AGREEMENT BY US. SUZUKI SAID THAT IN VIEW OF SEVERAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM

MICRONESIANS ASKING FOR ADDITIONAL REPARATIONS FROM JAPAN, WHICH TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL HAS CIRCULATED IN RECENT MONTHS, JAPANESE MISSION NOW CONSIDERING CIRCULATION OF LETTER TO OTHER UN MISSIONS POINTING OUT THAT CLAIMS AGREEMENT CONSTITUTE FULL AND FINAL SETTLEMENT OF MICRONESIAN CLAIMS. MISOFF SAID THAT SINCE TC COMMUNICATIONS CUSTOMARILY NOT ANSWERED, JAPANESE RESPONSE WAS UNNECESSARY AND COULD ITSELF STIR UP MORE CONTROVERSY IN TTPI IF PICKED UP BY MEDIA.

3. ON RELATED SUBJECT, MISOFF NOTED THAT ALL MEMBERS OF UNVM PUBLICLY EXPRESSED CRITICISM IN TTPI OF US INTERPRETATION OF MOST FAVORED NATION CLAUSE IN TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT RELATED TO FOREIGN INVESTMENT AS WELL AS TO ALLEGED JAPANESE " UNDER THE TABLE INVESTMENT" IN MICRONESIA. MISOFF EXPRESSED PERSONAL VIEW THAT WHILE UNVM' S REPORT WILL PROBABLY REFLECT THIS CRITICISM, IT HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT JAPANESE WILL BE SINGLED OUT BY NAME.

4. WHEN SUZUKI INQUIRED WHAT GOJ COULD DO TO CONVINCE MICRONESIANS THAT JAPAN NOT INTERESTED IN THEM SOLELY FOR TRADE AND INVESTMENT PURPOSES, MISOFF SUGGESTED THAT GOJ MIGHT CONSIDER A FEW SCHOLARSHIPS AND LOW- LEVEL CULTURAL EXCHANGES SUCH AS HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAMS AND UNIVERSITY CHORAL GROUPS.

5. COMMENT: SUZUKI' S PREOCCUPATION WITH TC COMMUNICATIONS NORMALLY IGNORED BY MOST UN MISSIONS AND OVERLOOKED BY MEDIA INDICATIVE OF SENSITIVITY WHICH JAPANESE MISSION DISPLAYS WHENEVER JAPAN' S WAR- TIME ACTIVITIES MENTIONED-- NO MATTER HOW OBLIQUELY-- IN UN FORUMS.
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